

Please amend the specification as described below.

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following:

Lubricants of the type described ~~herein at particular useful~~ herein are particularly useful when incorporated with or used in conjunction with drilling muds or fluids. United States Patent 4, 230,586 relates to aqueous well-drilling fluids containing additives comprising colloidal disperse systems and emulsifiers. Such additives provide lubricity to the drilling fluids and thus allow rotary drilling operations to be carried out at reduced torque and drag (vertical movement). Methods of carrying out drilling operations using these drilling fluids are also within the scope of this reference. United States Patent 4,301,016 provides a method for drilling a borehole wherein a drilling fluid comprises an aqueous composition which contains an effective amount of an emulsion polymerized latex comprised of an interpolymer of an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer and at least one other, non-carboxylated polymerizable monomer.

Please replace paragraph [0009] with the following:

However environmental pressure is increasingly compelling drilling companies to adopt water based fluids in place of oil based muds. An aqueous ~~solutions~~ solution containing polymeric suspending agents or dispersants and/or bentonite to suspend the rock cuttings is less environmentally harmful, and may be somewhat cheaper than the use of oil based muds. The solid suspending properties are provided by polymeric thickeners such as sodium carboxymethyl cellulose or methacrylates. In the case of water-based muds, the protection of the shale has been provided by the presence of polymers which encapsulate the shale particles irreversibly and are therefore consumed quantitatively when the rock is drilled. For deep drilling or for drilling through shale, such aqueous fluids are often inadequate. They have insufficient thermal stability to withstand the high temperatures of deep formations and they can cause breakdown of the shale. Their lubricity is also generally inferior to that of oil based muds. Attempts have been made to improve the performance of aqueous drilling fluids with a variety of special additives such as polymeric coating agents, and high concentrations of electrolyte to help stabilize shale. These have not succeeded in providing an aqueous fluid with adequate performance to replace oil based muds for deep drilling.

Please replace paragraph [0053] with the following:

The lubricant composition typically comprises between about 20% and about 45%, for example between about 30% and about 40% by weight, of a suspension agent. The suspension agent generally comprises or consists essentially of one or more metal compounds described infra. The metal compound may react with at least one carboxylic acid moiety in an unsaturated fatty acid of the lubricant composition. The metal compounds useful in making the suspension agent are generally any one or more of Group I and/or Group II metal compounds (CAS version of the Periodic Table of the Elements). The Group I metals of the metal compound include alkali metals (sodium, potassium, lithium, etc.) as well as Group IB metals such as copper. The preferred Group I metals are sodium, potassium, and lithium, more preferably sodium and potassium, and most preferably sodium. The Group II metals include the alkaline earth metals (magnesium, calcium, barium, etc.) as well as the Group IIB metals such as zinc or cadmium. The preferred Group II metals are magnesium, calcium, barium, or zinc, more preferably magnesium or calcium, and most preferably calcium. Generally the metal compounds are admixed into the film forming lubricant composition as metal salts, and are preferably metal bases. In one embodiment at least half of the equivalents of the suspension agent are Group II salts. In a preferred embodiment at least half, preferably at least 80%, by weight of suspension agent is an alkaline earth metal compound, e.g., calcium. In each of the above embodiments, the anionic portion of the salt can be any counterion, e.g., a hydroxyl, oxide, carbonyl, carbonate, borate, nitrate, etc. Preferably the anionic portion is a base, e.g., a hydroxyl, a carbonyl, a carbonate, or mixture thereof. In a preferred embodiment, the suspension agent comprises metal-base salts in an amount such that the basic equivalents of base anions are at least 1.5 times the acidic equivalents of film forming liquid lubricant.

Please replace paragraph [0054] with the following:

Alternately or additionally, the suspension agent can comprise or consist essentially of one or more liquid coating amines. Representative liquid coating amines are described in for example U.S. Patent 5,320,768, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference thereto, describing an amine is represented by the formula $R_1-N-(R_2)_2$, where each R group is a C2 to C5 alkylene and the R1 group is a C3 to C24 saturated or unsaturated aliphatic group or two saturated or unsaturated aliphatic group groups with an oxygen there between, wherein the amine has between ten and thirty carbon atoms. Another useful liquid

coating amine is a basic amine compound of marked oleophilic nature and at most limited water solubility, which is capable of forming salts with carboxylic acids, as disclosed in U. S. Patent 5,348,938, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference thereto. In particular, optionally olefin-unsaturated aliphatic, cycloaliphatic and/or heterocyclic oleophilic basic amine compounds which contain one or more N-groups capable of forming salts with carboxylic acids are included, for example a basic amine compound having at least one long-chain hydrocarbon radical with 10 to 24 carbon atoms, which can be olefin mono- or poly-unsaturated. The filming amine can be a corrosion inhibitor which plates out or coats metal surfaces, such as Arcor 233 available from Baker Performance Chemicals, Dayton, Tex.

Please replace paragraph [0067] as follows:

An aqueous lubricant having about 65% by volume of EZESlide™, a tall oil fatty acid compound marketed by Sun Drilling Products, Inc, about 33% by volume of calcium hydroxide, and about ~~about~~ 2% by volume LUBRAGLIDE CE Copolymer™ beads was blended to form an overbased, substantially uniform composition. This material was found to have an LC50 above 750000 ppm at 2% by volume in generic 7 mud. This material was added in an amount between about 2% to 3% into a drilling mud, and the lubricant composition provided excellent improvements in lubricity down-hole as exhibited by reduced torque.